

The Daley Apartments

1312 Bunch Boulevard
Muncie, Indiana



THE DALEY APARTMENTS

The Daley Apartments is the first inclusive, affordable, accessible housing complex in the nation, designed and developed with funds raised by a grass-roots group of people with disabilities.

It all began in 1994, when Mr. Richard Daley, and Indiana Civil Rights Commissioner, Beth Quarles met for dinner. During their conversation, Daley conveyed that he would love to live in the Muncie community but was unable to find an accessible apartment. Dumb-founded, Quarles took it upon herself to contact different agencies throughout the United States to ask about the availability of accessible apartments. As a result, Quarles toured some apartment complexes represented as accessible. In many of these apartments, the only accessible feature Quarles could discern was the presence of a larger bathroom.

Most accessible apartments were not inclusive, but were intended to house only seniors. Inadequately designed group homes were explained away as transitional. Upon inquiry, Quarles learned that most of the residents had been living in these homes for more than five years.

Quarles and five interested individuals took action. They held forums in Muncie to discuss inclusive, accessible housing. Interested groups visited accessible sites all over the United States, repeatedly asking why people with disabilities could not find or afford decent housing.

In December 1995, Future Choices, Inc. was founded with a board of directors consisting of five individuals with different disabilities. The mission of Future Choices, Inc. was to design and raise money to build the first inclusive, affordable accessible housing complex in the nation.

The result is the Daley Apartments: a thirty-seven-unit complex on 2.7 acres in the heart of downtown Muncie. The complex built by subcontractors of Amish, African-American, Hispanic, and Caucasian ethnic background consists with twelve units in each building. Each building has four accessible units on the ground floor. There are one, two and three bedroom designs each suited for individuals needing accessible apartments. Rental prices range from \$245 to \$500 per month. Each apartment contains a washer and dryer, central air, garbage disposal, carpet, intercom system, and a view of the White River. There are an on-site activities' coordinator and a site manager. Ball State University designed and built a sitting and gathering area outside the complex that overlooks the river.



The complex is inclusive. Residents include individuals with hearing, physical, mental and developmental disabilities; single parent families with either a father or mother; elderly; young; and persons without disabilities. The following provided funding for the Daley Apartments:

Indiana Department of Commerce
Indiana Housing Finance Authority
Indiana Governor's Planning Council
Muncie Urban Enterprise Association
Muncie Community Development
Muncie Ball Brother foundation
Muncie Community Foundation
Federal Home Loan Bank
Local Initiative Support Corporation
American National Bank
Alliant

Quarles has a right to feel proud of her accomplishment. She stated, "I feel we have accomplished our goals and hope that others will follow to help with community-based living for individuals with disabilities. The Daley Apartments is an example that anything is possible with perseverance and vision," stated Quarles.

Provided exclusively for the Indiana Fair Housing Task Force by the Indiana Civil Rights Commission Public Education & Outreach Center

